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From:

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Sent:

Tuesday, November 10, 2015 6:20 AM

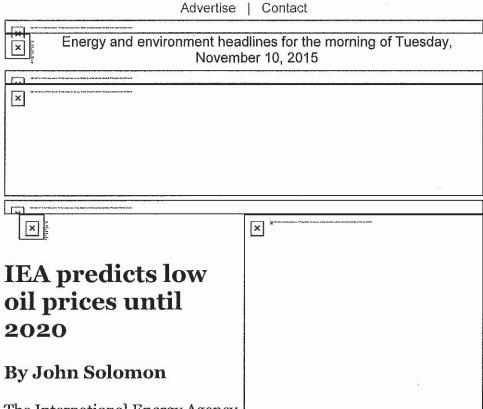
To:

Coleman, Sam

Subject:

IEA predicts low oil prices until 2020





The International Energy Agency predicted Tuesday that oil prices are likely to remain flat over the next five years until demand catches up to supply in 2020 and pushes crude back to \$80 per barrel.

In its annual energy outlook, the IEA also predicted that China would increasingly rely on natural gas while demand for oil in developed countries like the United States will continue to decline.

Oil prices have fallen about 50 percent since last year as the massive rise in production has left a glut in the market. On Monday, crude oil futures prices ended at \$43.87 a barrel.

The IEA report projected it would take until 2020 for demand and supply to re-balance.

"On the supply side, the decline in current upstream spending, estimated at more than 20 percent in 2015, results in the combined production of non-OPEC producers peaking before 2020," it said.

IAE said growth in output from OPEC countries would likely rely on Iraq and Iran, though both face significant challenges such as "the risk of instability in Iraq, alongside weaknesses in infrastructure and institutions; and the need in Iran (assuming the path to sanctions relief is followed successfully) to secure the technology and large-scale investment required."

The report also predicted that the coal industry, already in a declining position, would continue to experience difficult times as countries pursue lower carbon diets in their energy policies. Meanwhile, renewable energies will continue to get cheaper and more widespread, aided by government support.

"Supportive government policies and related subsidies continue to be critical to most of the capacity deployed, as only a few countries put a significant price on carbon in our central scenario. The need for subsidies, however, is restrained by a shift in deployment to countries with higher quality renewable resources, by continued cost reductions and higher wholesale prices," the report said.

The IEA's World Energy Outlook report can be downloaded here.

Quick Links

Obama channels Keystone rejection to rally activists on climate action

Report: Forest restoration work not keeping pace with demand

Oregon removes wolf from endangered species list

Rail officials release Northeast Corridor impact study

Clinton revs up climate push to solidify her base

Turkmenistan and Afghanistan to lay new pipeline

Financial expert testifies in ex-coal CEO's criminal trial

California regulator lodged complaint over work for Brown

New Canadian government allows Montreal sewage-dumping plan

Keystone supporters not giving up

McCarthy to Texas: Better for state to have a carbon compliance plan

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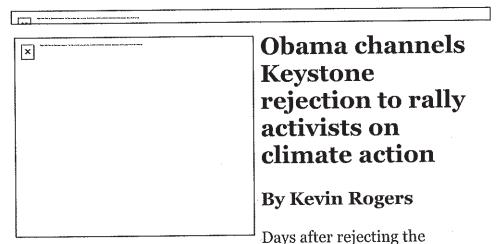
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Upcoming Events



Keystone XL pipeline, President Barack Obama is working the decision into his list of accomplishments on climate action, touting it as "serious" move on global climate leadership.

Speaking at an event in Washington hosted by Organizing for Action, the political advocacy group that grew out of his presidential campaigns, Obama highlighted the move as part of his larger push for a strong United Nations climate deal in Paris.

"America is leading the world towards dealing with climate change in a serious way. Global action--one of the reasons the State Department decided the Keystone pipeline would not serve the national interest," he said to applause. "Approving that project would have undercut our global leadership. And we've got to lead by example."

The remarks are his first on the decision since formally rejecting the TransCanada pipeline, which would have carried oil sands crude from Alberta to refineries in the Gulf Coast, on Friday. The president argued that the project would have had a limited economic benefit and would run contrary to global efforts to transition to cleaner fuel.

The move to reject the pipeline drew consternation from industry and its supporters in Congress, who accused Obama of kowtowing to environmental activists at the expense of U.S. economic interests.

Obama on Monday also announced that he would attend the opening two days of the climate negotiations, which begin Nov. 30 and seek to reach a deal to prevent average global temperatures from rising 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels.

The Met Office, the British weather forecasting system, warned Monday that 2015 could mark the first year where average temperatures hit 1 degree Celsius above the pre-industrial mark, highlighting the urgency put on this round of negotiations.

Obama used his speech to highlight the administration's other clean energy accomplishments, including rapid growth in renewable energy, declining crude oil imports and carbon reductions in an effort to rally support for an international climate deal

"We were told we were going to be hopelessly addicted to foreign oil forever. Well, we've cut our oil imports by more than half; tripled the amount of wind energy, increased by 20 times the amount of solar energy; doubled clean energy overall—steady sources of good jobs that can't be outsourced," he said. "America has cut our carbon pollution more than any other nation—advanced nation on Earth. Think about that. That's your accomplishments."

But Obama warned that the administration's action on climate change would fall short without a mobilized grassroots effort to keep the public engaged on the issue.

"On climate change, all the work that we've done on the clean power plant rule and doubling fuel-efficiency standards on cars, it's not going to be enough," he said. "We've got more to do. And we've got to educate our communities to understand that this is not a hopeless cause, but we have to take it seriously if we want to leave our kids a safe and prosperous and habitable planet."

Evan as Obama spoke to Organizing for Action, Senate Environment and Public Works Chairman James Inhofe, R-Okla., used a Senate floor speech to deride the administration's efforts to go around Congress in Paris, painting it as a capitulation to foreign interests at the expense of American consumers.

"It's no wonder the president is working so hard to circumvent Congress' role in committing the United States to an international agreement on climate change," Inhofe said.

"Clearly, the president's agreement is more about legacy than promoting policy that is in the best interests of the American people. Americans' need to not only question a science that is not settled, but a policy that is being used to appease internationalists at the cost of America's future prosperity," he continued.

Report: Forest restoration work not keeping pace with demand

By Kevin Freking

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. Forest Service says it has increased the pace and scale of its forest restoration work since 2011, but progress waned this year and the agency risks following further behind without more resources.

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack is using a new report to press Congress to change the way in which the federal government funds wildfire fighting. The report states that the Forest Services was able to thin out more than 4.6 million acres of forest lands in 2014, a 9 percent increase from 2011. The amount of timber produced for public consumption increased by about 12 percent during that same period.

Vilsack said he expects that improvements will drop off this year, but will still exceed the 2011 levels.

"We're doing more, but we're not necessarily keeping up with the risk that's out there. You've got 45 million acres of diseased trees out there that are just waiting for a lightning strike to ignite them," Vilsack said. "We've got to pick up the pace of restoration if we want to reduce the risk of fire."

With Congress finishing its work on this year's budget bills, the Obama administration is pressing for legislation that would treat the most devastating wildfires as natural disasters and relieve pressure on other parts of the Forest Service's budget.

More

Oregon removes wolf from endangered species list

By The Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — Oregon wildlife officials have voted to remove the gray wolf from the state's Endangered Species Act list.

The state's Fish and Wildlife Commission voted 4-2 to delist the wolves during a Monday meeting in Salem.

Eighty-one wolves now live in Oregon. State biologists said the species is not in danger of extinction here. But some independent scientists disagree with that conclusion.

While delisting wolves wouldn't lead to immediate changes, more lethal measures could be allowed to manage them in the future.

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Rail officials release Northeast Corridor impact study

By David Porter

NEWARK, N.J. (AP) — The environmental impacts of a large-scale transformation of the Northeast Corridor rail line would be greatly outweighed by an eventual decrease in energy usage and greenhouse gas production, as well as an increase in economic activity and mobility, a draft environmental report released Tuesday concluded.

The report by the Federal Railroad Administration analyzed three alternatives for upgrading the corridor between now and 2040 that feature improvements ranging from the mundane but utilitarian (streamlined ticketing) to what might seem wishful thinking given current economic constraints (a rail tunnel connecting Long Island and the Connecticut coastline).

The three alternatives were compared to a No Action alternative that would maintain existing service and infrastructure as ridership grows. To give an idea of the scope and expense involved, the No Action alternative would cost roughly \$20 billion over the next 25 years, while the most ambitious alternative, which includes the underwater rail tunnel, would cost about \$290 billion, federal rail officials said on a conference call Monday.

For context, they said that, given the fact that the Northeast Corridor region produces one-fifth of the nation's gross domestic product, an unexpected loss of the NEC for one day could cost the nation nearly \$100 million in transportation-related impacts and productivity losses.

More

Clinton revs up climate push to solidify her base

By Ken Thomas

CONCORD, N.H. (AP) — In a presidential race fueled by outsider energy, Hillary Rodham Clinton is casting herself as the ultimate insider.

The former first lady, senator and secretary of state campaigned in New Hampshire Monday with an array of reminders of her decades-long membership in the nation's political power structure. As she filed her official candidacy in the state's storied primary, Clinton reminisced about the previous three times she'd been present for that ritual: twice in the 1990s when her husband, former President Bill Clinton, ran for election and re-election, and once for her own first presidential run, in 2007.

Later Monday, she touted her longtime relationship with the League of Conservation Voters, which endorsed her. And promising to continue President Barack Obama's work on climate change, Clinton cast herself as her party's liberal standard-bearer.

"We have to use every tool we have. There is no planet B," she said, in accepting the LCV endorsement.

Along the way, Clinton took an implicit swipe at her chief rival, Sen. Bernie Sanders— a self-described democratic socialist who is challenging her for the nomination as a Democrat.

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A message from America's Natural Gas Alliance

Clean is Powerful. Natural gas helps Georgia Power's plant generate electricity with 50% fewer emissions. Think about it.

Turkmenistan and Afghanistan to lay new pipeline

By The Associated Press

ASHGABAT, Turkmenistan (AP) — Presidents of Turkmenistan and Afghanistan have met to launch the construction of a pipeline that will pump natural gas from Turkmenistan through Afghanistan, Pakistan and India.

Turkmenistan is believed to have the world's fourth-largest gas reserves, but currently exports almost all of it to China.

Turkmen President Gurbanguly Berdymukhamedov on Monday discussed the new pipeline with Afghan President Ashraf Ghani, who hailed it as "extremely important for the entire region," according to Turkmen state media reports. The reports said Tuesday that the two leaders agreed to formally start its construction on Friday.

TAPI, as the proposed 1,735-kilometer pipeline is known, is intended to carry 33 billion cubic meters of gas annually through the Afghan cities of Herat and Kandahar and end up in the India-Pakistan border town of Fazilka.

Financial expert testifies in ex-coal CEO's criminal trial

By The Associated Press

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) — An expert witness for the government has testified about Massey Energy's stock at the trial of former company CEO Don Blankenship.

Financial expert Frank Torchio was questioned by prosecutors and defense attorneys in federal court Monday in Charleston. He discussed his study of how Massey stock was affected by the company's public statements and news coverage following a deadly mine explosion.

Torchio is the federal government's 26th witness in Blankenship's trial.

Blankenship is charged with conspiring to break safety laws at Upper Big Branch Mine and lying to financial regulators and investors about safety. The mine exploded in 2010, killing 29 men.

More

California regulator lodged complaint over work for Brown

By Ellen Knickmeyer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A worker in the state oil and gas regulatory agency lodged a whistleblower's complaint over being ordered to prepare a state map of the oil and gas potential, history and geology of California Gov. Jerry Brown's family ranch, the worker and her attorney said Monday.

Jennie Catalano, a mapping specialist who has been with the state Department of Conservation for 18 years, brought the complaint. She contends that she faced unspecified retaliation after being suspected of lodging the complaint over being directed to do the personal work for Brown, said her attorney, William Rehwald.

"I was asked to help her in part because she does feel that she's being retaliated against because she's a whistleblower," Rehwald said.

State records obtained by The Associated Press show Brown in June 2014 directed senior officials at the Department of Conservation's oil and gas regulatory agency to map, research and assess the oil, gas and mineral history and potential of his 2,700-acre family ranch in Northern California near Williams.

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New Canadian government allows Montreal sewage-dumping plan

By The Associated Press

MONTREAL (AP) — Canada's new environment minister on Monday approved Montreal's plan to discharge 8 billion liters (2.1 billion gallons) of untreated sewage into the St. Lawrence River.

Liberal Environment Minister Catherine McKenna said from Paris that she's asking the city to implement several measures before dumping the waste water such as monitoring the discharge and to improve emergency clean-up plans.

The discharge can begin as soon as the conditions are met and must be completed by Dec. 5. Montreal Mayor Denis Coderre has said the dump is necessary because the city must temporarily close a large sewer that feeds sewage to a treatment facility. The discharge plan was suspended by the previous Conservative government during the election campaign.

U.S. Sen. Charles Schumer, a New York Democrat, had asked U.S. environmental regulators to work with Canada to stop the discharge. The EPA said it has no regulatory authority in Canada.

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Week in Review – Obama Kills Keystone XL Pipeline Proposal



Sen. Sanders Rolls Out Climate Change Proposal.

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Keystone supporters not giving up

TransCanada Corp., the company behind the Keystone XL pipeline, has maintained that it's still considering its options despite President Obama's rejection of the project, and Republican lawmakers have been marshaling their support for it, The Hill reports.

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McCarthy to Texas: Better for state to have a carbon compliance plan

Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy says it would be better for Texas to put together its own proposal for complying with the Clean Power Plan than having one imposed by the federal government, The Texas Tribune reports.

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EIA says shale production growth only seen in Permian, Utica

Monthly drilling data released by the Energy Information Administration shows production continues to grow in the Permian Basin and the Utica Shale, but has started to decline in other U.S. shale plays, FuelFix reports.

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Global push to lower carbon too slow: IEA

Moves to lower world carbon emissions are not being made fast enough to avert dangerous increases in global temperatures, the International Energy Agency says in its World Energy Outlook 2015, with its chief Fatih Birol declaring that "now is not the time to relax," The New York Times reports.

More

Oil mixed on IEA forecast

International Energy Agency predictions of continued low oil prices but steep declines in investment appeared to leave oil traders little moved early Tuesday. U.S. benchmark crude rose 10 cents to \$43.97 a barrel in electronic trading on the Nymex, while in London Brent fell 3 cents to \$47.17, Reuters reports.

More

VW gesture not enough for diesel owners: Senate Dems

Sens. Richard Blumenthal, D-Conn., and Ed Markey, D-Mass., say Volkswagen's offer of \$1,000 compensation for owners of diesel vehicles caught up in the emissions scandal doesn't go far enough, The Hill reports.

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Ohio green plan up against new constitutional amendment

A proposal calling for Ohio to issue \$13 billion in bonds to pay for renewable energy projects could run afoul of a new constitutional amendment approved by voters in the state last week, The Columbus Dispatch reports.

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LCV gets Sanders backlash after endorsing Clinton

Supporters of Democratic presidential candidate Bernie Sanders have taken to social media to criticize the move by the League of Conservation Voters to endorse rival Hillary Clinton, The Washington Post reports.

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Smart display helps Hawaiians track energy use

Eighty-six percent of participants in a smart energy pilot project in Hawaii run by CEIVA Energy said they preferred to see information on their electricity usage displayed on a device in their home and that having one helped improve their awareness, Hawaii News Now reports.

 \mathbf{More}

Solar, efficiency having impact on electricity picture: ISO New England

Energy efficiency moves and increased solar capacity entering the grid through distributed generation are keeping a lid on peak demand and electricity usage, according to the 2015 Regional System Plan from ISO New England, Platts reports.

More

Upcoming Events

- Nov. 10, Washington: The United States Climate Action Network to hold a forum on the United Nations climate negotiations, featuring representatives from the Friends Committee on National Legislation, Oxfam America, the NAACP and the Natural Resources Defense Council. 3:00 pm, 50 F Street NW.
- Nov. 10, Washington: The United States Energy Association to hold a briefing on the potential economic benefits of lifting the crude oil export ban. Brookings Institution Senior Fellow Charles Ebinger to speak. 12:00 pm, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
- Nov. 10, Washington: Secretary Interior Sally Jewell and Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz to sign a Memorandum of Understanding at a ceremony to establish the Manhattan Project National Historic Park at sites in Tennessee, New

Mexico and Washington. Sens. Lamar Alexander, R-Tenn., Maria Cantwell, D-Wash., Tom Udall, D-N.M., and Martin Heinrich, D-N.M. and National Park Service Director Jonathan Jarvis to attend. 10:00 am, Department of the Interior 1951 Constitution Ave. NW

- Nov. 10, Washington: The American Nuclear Society to hold its annual winter meeting and nuclear technology expo.
 Meeting runs through Thursday. 9:00 am, Marriott Wardman Park 2660 Woodley Rd NW
- Nov. 10, Washington: UK Foreign Secretary Philip Hammond to speak at the American Enterprise Institute for a discussion on climate change policy and maintaining a free market in the energy sector. 9:00 am, 1150 17th Street, NW

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